

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, TGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: INTER-ACADEMY AGREEMENT: EXCHANGE HOUSING
PROBLEMS (21.00)

1. NAS EXCHANGE RICHARD SILBAR AND HIS WIFE CHECKED IN AT THE EMBASSY MARCH 22, AT WHICH TIME SILBAR ADVISED THAT ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HAS NOT PROVIDED HIM WITH THE HOUSING WHICH HE HAD EXPECTED. THE SILBARS, WHO WILL BE IN MOSCOW UNTIL MID-AUGUST, HAVE BEEN PLACED IN THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HOTEL, WHICH CHARGES SILBAR FIVE RUBLES A DAY (WHICH WILL COST SILBAR \$1000 OVER THE COURSE OF HIS STAY) FOR HIS WIFE AND DOES NOT PERMIT COOKING. SILBAR REPORTED THAT HIS SPONSOR AT THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH, G. M. VAGRADOV, HAD WRITTEN PREVIOUSLY THAT THE ACADEMY WOULD PROVIDE THE SILBARS WITH AN APARTMENT. MOREOVER, ACADEMICIAN M. A. MARKOV, ACCORDING TO SILBAR, CONFIRMED THIS VERBALLY TO SILBAR'S SUPERVISOR AT THE LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY DURING A RECENT MEETING.

2. COMMENT - THOUGH SILBAR IS GENERALLY PLEASED WITH HIS RECEPTION HERE AND WITH THE PROGRAM ARRANGED BY HIS HOSTS, HE IS UPSET BY HIS LIVING SITUATION AND BY THE RELUCTANCE OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS SECTION OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. IN VIEW OF
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THE ACADEMY'S APPARENT DEFAULT ON AGREEMENT, ALBEIT INFORMAL, TO PROVIDE THE SILBARS WITH AN APARTMENT, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR NAS TO SUPPORT SILBAR'S REQUEST FOR BETTER HOUSING WITH A TELEX TO THE ACADEMY. IF THIS DOES NOT ACHIEVE THE DESIRED EFFECT, SCICOUNS WILL TAKE THIS UP WITH KULAKOV.

3. THIS IS BY NO MEANS THE FIRST TIME THAT WE HAVE BECOME AWARE OF HOUSING QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNRESOLVED AT THE TIME OF U.S. EXCHANGE ARRIVAL HERE. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT NAS DOES NOT ALWAYS MAKE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS THE HOUSING NEEDS OF AMERICAN EXCHANGEES NOR DOES NAS ALWAYS FULLY ADVISE US EXCHANGEES OF THE HOUSING SITUATION AWAITING THEM IN THE USSR. MANY US EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS HAVE COMPLAINED TO US ABOUT THIS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE NOTE THAT HOUSING IN DUSHANBE FOR US EXCHANGE CANDIDATE M. J. HANIFI (WHO WISHES TO ARRIVE THIS SPRING OR SUMMER) OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIV. APPARENTLY HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY: THE SOVIETS PROPOSE TO PLACE THE HANIFIS IN A DUSHANBE HOTEL AT A COST TO THE US EXCHANGE OF 30 RUBLES PER DAY.

4. WE SUGGEST AGAIN THAT NAS BE ASKED TO REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO INSURE THAT BOTH THE SOVIET ACADEMY AND US CANDIDATES ARE KEPT FULLY INFORMED ABOUT HOUSING PROBLEMS. IN VIEW OF PAST DIFFICULTIES, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT DURING THE FORTHCOMING INTER-ACADEMY AGREEMENT RENEWAL NEGOTIATIONS, NAS INSIST ON THE INCLUSION OF AN ARTICLE REQUIRING BOTH PARTIES TO PROVIDE CLEAR AND SPECIFIC INFORMATION CONCERNING THE HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR INDIVIDUAL EXCHANGEES AT LEAST TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE OF THEIR DEPARTURE FOR THEIR EXCHANGE VISIT. END COMMENT.
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5. FOR EUR/SOV/EXCHANGES. PLEASE PASS THE FOREGOING TO LARRY MITCHELL AT NAS AND REQUEST NAS TELEX SUPPORT FOR SILBAR'S HOUSING REQUEST ASAP. PLEASE ADVISE NAS ACTION TAKEN. TOON

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